

No. 8

**35th ANNUAL REPORT
of the
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE**



"What the Urban League means to the Negro community can best be understood by observing the dire need of its activity in cities where there is no local branch. The League fills such an unquestionable and eminently useful community need that—were it not for the peculiar American danger of corruption and undue influence when something becomes 'political'—it is obvious that the activity should be financed, and financed much more generously, from the public purse: by the city, the state and the federal government. . . .

"There are few informed persons in America, among either whites or Negroes, who do not appreciate the social service work done by the League. . . ."

. . . AN AMERICAN DILEMMA:

The Negro Problem and Modern Democracy
by Gunnar Myrdal
1944

Quotations used throughout this report are from a 1945 publication of the National Urban League: . . . To the Unfinished Struggle.

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World Brotherhood — Urban League Representative Carries Stars and Stripes at an International Youth Conference, London, England.

1945 was the thirty-fifth year of the National Urban League's existence. During that period, the League has participated in two World Wars. It has experienced the most serious depression in modern history. It has witnessed a spectacular and disastrous post-war boom, and now stands on the threshold of tomorrow's world.

Thirty-five years have seen a steady migration of the Negro population from rural areas into industrial centers, and from southern into northern and western regions. Recurrent periods of acute racial tension have been noted; racial conflict has flared up and died away; racial hostility has been manifested in sporadic and formally organized movements among both white and Negro citizens; prophets of despair and hope have sounded alternately ominous and inspiring messages on the subject of race relations. And during all of this, in the midst of social ferment and economic change, the status of Negroes as American citizens has steadily improved.

The League's working formula is so simple that its real significance and effectiveness are often overlooked. That formula consists in arousing the active interest of people in social problems which grow out of

racial contacts and differences; exploring and analyzing the underlying facts and devising means of using them; developing cooperative teamwork among interracial leaders and thus contributing to the solution of those social problems and elimination of racial hostility. Always its sights have been raised above the plane of interracial tensions to the best interests of the community, the state and the nation.

In applying this formula, the National Urban League has had the benefit of certain definite and peculiar advantages. In the first place, it is a national movement with autonomously operated local affiliates in 54 cities in 27 states. In these cities a total of nearly three million Negroes live, representing 45 percent of the urban Negro population of the country. In the second place, the League is interracially directed, with white and Negro leaders of many interests serving on the boards and committees of the parent organization and each of its 54 local affiliates. In the third place, the agency's social service function and its use of full-time employed professional staff provide information and techniques to make the League's program effective. Thus a broad base is provided for responsible white and Negro citizens to work together toward a common goal in the interest of the whole community.

Of course the League has greatly changed during its 35 years of existence. Changing times require modification of methods and approaches. While in philosophy and objectives, the Urban League movement today remains what it was in 1910, the expression of that philosophy and the approach to those objectives reflect the changing times. Thus, board and committee memberships are differently constituted and draw strength from wider areas of community interest. Staff members, graduates of the nation's outstanding universities and schools of social work, bring new skills and new social outlook to the movement.

This report is a story of Urban League effort and accomplishments in 1945. It is also a record of effort and failure in areas of need still unmet. It is a long step from the first Urban League budget of \$2,500 in 1911, to the present expenditures of more than a million dollars in local and national programs throughout the country. This growth in voluntary support is in itself an estimate of the value placed by the American public on the services rendered by the League movement. As we look toward the year 1946, our failures will cause us to redouble our efforts to reach those objectives which remain still unachieved. And our accomplishments will give us the courage to strive for even greater things.

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN,
President.

April 1946.



Planning Together for Equal Economic Opportunity.

"Only occasionally does the average American citizen realize how greatly the face of our national society has changed during these exciting war years."

THE SITUATION which faced the National Urban League during 1945 was a continuation and intensification of what had begun to develop in 1941. The war had scattered three-quarters of a million Negro workers with their families far and wide across the country. Uprooted from their old homes, and rootless in their new communities, these families were frequently without guidance resources. They had no group homogeneity, and no sense of belonging to their new communities. More than a million Negro young men and women had been called to serve in the armed forces and nearly a half of these had been dispatched to battlefronts and supply bases the world over. The shadow of the 1943 race riots still lingered over hundreds of communities, even those in which no actual outbreaks had taken place. Racial rumor factories were busy manufacturing ugly tales and counter-tales of plots hatched among either the white or the Negro population. In spite of active governmental efforts, and sometimes because of the indifference of government officials, racial discrimination still

persisted in wartime programs of industry, housing, and public services.

Notwithstanding an increase of public concern in the subject, and the organization of numerous "interracial committees" in cities which had been formerly complacent about the state of race relations, the typical American community found itself without adequate knowledge of racial conditions as they actually were and without a realistic plan for meeting those conditions.

In this whole picture, the National Urban League moved with increased efficiency and activity made possible by an expanded budget and staff. While the total expenditures of the local affiliates for 1944 were \$897,759.39; and for 1945 were \$924,080.36; the expenditures of the National Office increased from \$98,691.40 in 1944 to \$149,314.64 in 1945.

"There are signs throughout the country that an increasing number of our citizens of all races, creeds and social backgrounds are realizing the chance that we have, and our obligation to seize the chance, to rebuild inter-group relations within this country just as we are planning assiduously to rebuild international relations."

**Expansion
of the
Urban League
Movement**

The National Urban League's thirty-five years of experience were invested profitably in new areas of great need and in the formulation of new techniques in areas where the program was already established. Approximately 100 American cities turned to the League for guidance and assistance through requests from municipal officials, directors of social agencies, and civic groups. In five of these cities new Urban Leagues were established or negotiations begun in 1944 were completed: Portland, Oregon; San Francisco, California; Fort Worth, Texas; New Brunswick, New Jersey; and Gary, Indiana. In some cities, volunteer Service Councils were set up or aided. In others, scientific social surveys and consultant services were made available through the League's Community Relations Project. Communities which did not wish to, or could not avail themselves of these services, profited from field visits by League staff members, or received guidance through correspondence, or otherwise benefited from the League's counsel. Last, but not least, the 54 local Urban Leagues were brought closer together into a better-coordinated movement.

The establishment of new Urban League affiliates during 1945 furnishes an interesting study in contrasting methods of community

organization. In Portland, San Francisco and Gary, Leagues were created under sponsorship of local Community Chests after local surveys had revealed the need for Urban League programs. In New Brunswick, the Urban League grew out of a Service Council which had been functioning for a little more than a year. In Fort Worth, it was the driving interest of Negro citizens which enlisted the assistance of white supporters and resulted in the reorganization of a small social agency into an Urban League affiliate.

"There has been an increase of community problems, such as population congestion, juvenile delinquency and breakdown of essential public services. There have been losses in standards of community life and municipal and state government. Acrimonious relationships have developed between various groups in our national population . . . There has been a breakdown in the services of social agencies in many communities where tens of thousands of persons sorely in need of special aid and advice have been thrust one upon the other, literally bursting the seams of the community's structure."

**The Community
Relations Project
for Interracial
Social Planning**

The Community Relations Project for Interracial Social Planning, initiated in September 1944, moved into full operation in 1945 as a pioneering activity in race relations. An initial grant of \$35,000 from the General Education Board made possible the beginning of this project, which secured the cooperation and participation of fourteen national social work agencies. (*) Introduced during the year in New London, Connecticut; Gary, Indiana; Dayton, Ohio; Houston, Texas; Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Oklahoma; and St. Petersburg, Florida, the project represents a new and exceptional technique in combining professional social work procedures with positive action in race relations. The local Council of Social Agencies in the host city works with the National Urban League in organizing an advisory and sponsoring committee of white and Negro citizens. Research workers provided by the League, with the assistance of this committee, begin the survey and study of local conditions affecting race relations and Negro welfare.

(*) American Public Welfare Association
American War-Community Services
Boy Scouts of America
Child Welfare League of America
Community Chests and Councils
Family Welfare Association of America
Girl Scouts
National Committee on Housing

National Federation of Settlements
National Health Council
National Organization for Public Health
Nursing
National Probation Association
National Tuberculosis Association
National Committee for Mental Hygiene

After the Advisory Committee has studied and adopted the findings and recommendations of the study, the city is next visited by a "specialist team" provided by the League. Serving as consultants in the fields of employment, housing, public health, social case work and recreation and group work, these specialists spend several weeks with directors of social agencies, municipal officials, heads of civic organizations and leaders of labor and industry, advising them on ways in which the recommendations of the study can actually be put into effect.

For example, in the city of Gary, Indiana, the study revealed serious racial tensions in a large junior high school attended by white and Negro pupils and forecast a racial outbreak of some kind. Steps were suggested to eliminate the sources of these tensions, and forestall such an outbreak. Unfortunately, before these suggestions were carried out, a strike by white students occurred in mid-September. This strike was highly publicized throughout the nation. The white students demanded transfer of Negro pupils from the school. The strike ended the latter part of October when the Gary Board of Education denied the strikers' demands, re-instated the principal, and ordered the students back to their classrooms.

In the meantime, the Gary Urban League was established as one



"We Say . . . Live the American Way of Life . . ."

of the project's results. The League's Executive Secretary was appointed on November 1. He immediately brought together for a series of discussions the student leaders of both racial factions in the strike situation. The parents of these students were also brought into conferences in the League offices. At the time when the public was anticipating a second strike, and when intense agitation was being carried on to this end by adult as well as youth spokesmen, the Urban League was impressing upon these student leaders their responsibility for building citizenship standards in Gary by demonstrating that young people could study and play together harmoniously. The outcome, several months later, was a pledge by these youth leaders to reconcile their differences.

The pledge stated:

"We accept the thinking that the strike procedure is undesirable and inapplicable to problems developed in school situations. Strikes encourage animosity, friction and unfavorable relations among students, teachers and citizens.

"We, therefore, pledge no support of further school strikes.

"We believe a satisfactory solution of all problems at Froebel School can be effected through an organization composed of representative parents, teachers, students and area citizens. We pledge our support of such a group now being formed at Froebel School. Further, we express our confidence in its ability to cope with current questions.

"We are firmly convinced the Froebel question is not completely isolated in all aspects, but is also definitely involved in city-wide educational practices in Gary.

"We strongly urge the Board of Education of the City of Gary to issue a statement of policy providing for the enrollment of all students, regardless of race, creed or color, to attend whatever school is located in the zone of their residence.

"Further, we urge that complete facilities, activities, clubs, and programs of all schools be made available to all students.

"Finally, to all Gary, we say, begin now to live the American way of life—by deed rather than by word.

Signed,

STUDENTS' COMMITTEE.

"At the offices of the Urban League of Gary, March 2, 1946."

In some ways this was the most dramatic result of the project's work in Gary. In addition, the executive boards of eleven locals of the United Steel Workers of America (CIO) adopted a resolution calling for the employment of Negroes as plant supervisors, their acceptance as apprentices for all trades and crafts, and their admission to jobs from which they had previously been barred. Since this union covered the bulk of Negro employment in the city, its action played a great

part in protecting and improving postwar job opportunities for Negroes in the steel industry.

Further, health aspects of the project's study showed not only a poor health picture for the Negro population, but also a seriously inadequate public health program for the entire city. On the basis of this study, the city health department prepared a budget for 1945-46 which nearly doubled that for 1944-45.

In each of the other cities where the project has been developed, a new community determination to eradicate social and economic inequalities has been evident. Results of the project vary from city to city but they present an over-all pattern of progress which affirms the practical and constructive approach of the Urban League program.

"This is a day of social pioneering, and our country needs every hopeful technique, every possible experiment in race relations to help establish the truth of American living in every American community."

**The Department
of Research
and Community
Projects**

The Department of Research and Community Projects which directs and supervises the Community Relations Project was responsible also for a series of other study-action achievements: (1) a survey of the needs of the Negro population in Evanston, Illinois, conducted at the request of the local Council of Social Agencies; (2) a re-evaluation of the program of the Brough Community Association, League affiliate in Grand Rapids, Michigan, directed also for the local Council of Social Agencies; (3) a review of recreational needs and programs among the Negro population of Tulsa, Oklahoma, to serve as a basis for a program in the process of being established by the Carver Fund of that city.

The department furnished answers for 1,011 requests for information on Negro life. This gives some idea of the extensive activities which characterized this particular phase of the National Urban League's usefulness.

**The Study of
Business and
Business Education
Among Negroes**

A study of Negro-owned business was conducted jointly by Atlanta University and the National Urban League, through a grant from the General Education Board. With headquarters in Atlanta and a joint University-Urban League staff, the study included twelve typical cities

in southern and border states. The National Negro Business League, the United States Department of Commerce, and twenty outstanding Negro colleges and universities cooperated in the study.(*) The final report of the study is now being completed. A preliminary report described the number and size of typical Negro businesses and some of the weaknesses in business management. It revealed the extent to which trained leadership is used or available, the fields in which Negro businessmen can hope to engage profitably during the postwar period, and the improvements which should be made in college business courses in order to provide capable leadership. The final report will have a helpful effect on the business curricula of Negro colleges and on the management of business enterprises. It should, therefore, be an aid to the new Negro businessman, especially the veteran, during the next few years.

"Negro young people must prepare themselves at this moment for participation in the struggle for democracy—which will stretch far beyond the war years, for decade after decade into the future."

Fellowships The Executive Board continued the League's thirty-year practice of providing fellowships for professional study in the field of social work. Funds were allocated for the second year of study at the New York School of Social Work, Columbia University and at the Graduate School of Applied Social Sciences, University of Pittsburgh. The League now has made 103 such awards, the recipients of which have made notable contributions to interracial progress and community welfare. Two new fellowships were awarded during 1945, one for study at the New York School of Social Work, and one at Teachers College, Columbia University—the latter for work in vocational guidance and personnel administration, with special reference to veterans.

(*) Atlanta University
Clark College
Dillard University
Fisk University
Georgia State College
Hampton Institute
Houston College for Negroes
Howard University
LeMoyne College
Lincoln University (Mo.)

Louisville Municipal College
Morehouse College
Morgan State College
Morris Brown College
North Carolina College for Negroes
Spelman College
Tennessee A. and I. State College
Virginia State College
Virginia Union University
Wilberforce University



"We Worked for Full Production in Wartime."

"A great stride forward has been taken in the matter of employment. For the first time in the history of the nation, free Negro American workers are employed at a great spread of skills throughout almost the whole of American industry, and a demonstration has been made that the ability of the worker bears no relationship to his race."

**The
Industrial
Relations
Department**

Prior to the end of hostilities in the Pacific in August the League's industrial relations program centered around the adjustment of Negro workers in war industries. V-J Day shifted that center to the placement of Negro wage earners in postwar industry and their protection during the period of reconversion. Immediately after the official announcement of V-J Day, the Industrial Relations Department made public a report on the number of Negro workers displaced in war industries in 49 strategic industrial centers. A complete file was prepared of large multi-plant corporations which had been engaged in war production. A series of

There was still a large amount of work in the way of these adaptations and the whole war-time construction with Negro workers was reviewed and postwar employment opportunities were considered. Between August and the end of December, 1945, 150 adaptations were made by Federal staff these employed 12,000 Negro workers at the peak of war production. Of these 150 adaptations it is estimated that 100 were made in the interest of Negro workers in their pay rates for training. It stated that the Negro workers would be required to work with the same rate as the white workers.

In addition to the 150 adaptations it was planned the entire Federal Government was to be filled with more than 1,000 industrial plants within two weeks after V-J Day.

Another important feature of the Industrial Relations Department was directed at the Federal Government's Worker security was recognized as an important factor in the settlement of Negroes and the Federal Government unions interviewed indicated that they recog-



"... and Our Skills are Ready for Peacetime Production."

nized the problem and were prepared to deal with it in such fashion as to protect the interests of their Negro members. In some cases, League staff members acted as spokesmen for groups of Negro workers who had grievances against union leadership, and in other cases assisted unions in explaining to Negro workers issues on which these members were inadequately informed regarding union rules and policies.

Urban League representatives served as discussion leaders at a number of labor education conferences, such as those held in Detroit, Michigan; Newark and Trenton, New Jersey; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Akron and Cleveland, Ohio; Albany, New York; and New York City. In each of these conferences the union's responsibility was clearly outlined for safeguarding the Negro worker's postwar job opportunities.

Special attention was given to the programs of the Veterans' Administration and the Veterans' Employment Service. Frequent conferences were held by the Director of Industrial Relations with key federal officials such as the Administrator of the Veterans' Administration, the Director of the Veterans' Employment Service, and the Executive Director of the United States Employment Service. In none of these instances were the results of the discussion satisfactory to the League or adequate to protect the interests of Negro veterans.

The United States Employment Service, in formulating postwar programs for minority group job seekers, made use of a memorandum prepared by the Industrial Relations Department. A similar document was prepared at the request of the Veterans' Administration for use in meeting the needs of Negro veterans. However, the lack of effective controls over local United States Employment Service offices by the federal government, and the lack of understanding and an intelligent policy in the Veterans' Administration on the question of Negro veterans, made it quite clear that the Urban League and every other interested agency must continue to face for some time to come, the problems resulting from the unmet needs of Negro veterans. The League protested strongly against the Veterans' Administration's plan for establishing segregated veterans' hospitals for Negroes in the deep South. It pointed out the absence of Negroes in any policy making and planning capacity in the Administration. It recounted the lamentable racial record of the past administration of this agency, and registered strong opposition against a tendency to carry over into the new administration the errors of the old.

Nor was attention directed solely toward the responsibilities of management, labor and government. The Director of the Department traveled widely throughout the country consulting with Negro workers

themselves and Negro civic organizations. He served as discussion leader in conferences on postwar employment for Negro war workers and veterans sponsored separately by Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana, and North Carolina College for Negroes at Durham. He made recommendations to these institutions for curricula changes—adjustments which would provide veterans with a wider range of choice in selecting training for their future careers. Vocational schools and the trade departments of colleges were urged to reorganize their courses and to renovate and modernize their equipment in light of new employment trends.

The first two issues of the League's *Industrial Relations News Letter* were issued. The first—*Absenteeism and the Negro Worker*—was prepared early in the year, and 6,000 copies were distributed among key personnel officers in war plants, labor leaders, Negro organizations, and government officials. The second—*How Not to Discriminate Against Workers Because of Race, Color, Religion or National Origin*—appeared after V-J Day and was widely acclaimed as one of the most comprehensive publications on the subject. This news letter was reprinted by the Dartnell Industrial Relations Service, a commercial management agency in Chicago, for distribution among its subscribers.

New industrial departments were created in several local Leagues, and in others additional staff added to existing departments. In all, fourteen new industrial posts were thereby created. This development in itself is an indication of a healthy growth in the Urban League movement, especially in this important League function. The fruits of this expansion are to be noted in the service which the League performs as an effective instrument for the promotion of industrial peace, as an interpreter of the Negro worker's needs and attitudes to labor and management, and as a supporter of wise leadership in both fields affecting the interests of Negro employees. More and more, local and national League industrial staff members are being regarded as valuable adjuncts to the councils of community leadership, as economic problems of the Negro population press more and more heavily for the community's attention.



1946 APPEAL
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

1133 Broadway
New York 10, New York

Date.....

Here is my check for \$.....to support the work of the
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE.

Here is my pledge for \$.....to support the work of the
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE.

Pledge payable.....
(dollar)

Name.....
(please print)

Street.....

City.....Zone.....State.....

*Contributions to the National Urban League are deductible for income tax
purposes*

Please make check payable to NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FORM OF BEQUEST
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

1133 Broadway
New York 10, New York

Date_____

I hereby give, devise and bequeath to the NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, a corporation existing and operating under the laws of the State of New York,

the sum of \$_____

Name_____

(signature)

Street_____

City_____Zone_____State_____

Contributions to the NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE are deductible to the extent provided by law.



"We Study and Learn Together to forge the Weapons of Peace."

"When we speak of the need for protecting our youth of tomorrow, we are inevitably brought face to face with the fact that they are the youth of our so called minority groups who have the least protection in today's chaotic situation and who are most apt to show high incidences of delinquent behavior. And so, as we plan for the re-employment of war workers, civilian adjustment of discharged veterans, and a fuller life for our youth of today and tomorrow, we are planning in behalf of such minority groups."

Education Services For sixteen years the National Urban League has been a major force in promoting vocational guidance and training for in school and out of school youth and for young Negro workers. In pursuance of this program, the League has sponsored thirteen annual Vocational Opportunity Campaigns (VOC), during which the attention of the American public has been drawn to the need for providing better training facilities for Negro youth and encouraging them to take advantage of these facilities. In anticipation of the postwar needs of young men and women returning from the services and those still in schools and colleges, the National Urban League established during 1945 an office of Education Services. That office is prepared to direct even more effective Vocational Opportunity Campaigns in the future,

and also to give year-round service and advice to social and civic organizations and educational institutions working with Negro youth. Work in this connection was carried on during the fall with schools and colleges throughout the country, and especially Negro institutions in southern states. Cooperative activities have also been undertaken with the National Education Association, the American Teachers' Association, and the American Council on Education.

"Some local groups, desiring leadership or national affiliation, turn to the National Urban League, with its emphasis on the social welfare of Negroes and social work techniques."

Field Services It is obvious that a great deal of field service is a part of the Urban League's program. Each local affiliate must be visited as often as possible, and non-League cities seek help frequently. On-the-spot advice must be given on racial problems in cities many hundred miles apart. While one staff member is sitting in conference with War Department officials in Washington on questions connected with the discharge and counseling of Negro servicemen, another staff member may be in Memphis, Tennessee, discussing with USES officials the absence of Negro staff members in the employment service there. Still others may be found in Detroit, Michigan, advising with auto union officials on seniority rights of Negro members, in Louisville, Kentucky, talking with local leadership about the need for increased League staff, or in San Francisco, California, helping to inaugurate a new Urban League program.

As these calls multiplied in number and complexity, it became necessary to effect some coordination of the services provided in response to them. Thus, during the fall of 1945, an office of Field Services was established with a director responsible for planning and coordinating field activities to provide greatest efficiency and usefulness. It is this office which provides guidance for the Service Councils of the National Urban League. These Councils are volunteer groups concerned with problems of race relations, and working in cooperation with the League. They are formed in communities not in a position to support, or having no demonstrated need for a professionally-staffed affiliate. The office of Field Services also establishes priority of need as competing requests for services are made, calls attention to unserved areas of need and arranges for these needs to be answered as rapidly as possible. The various staff members of the National Office have made 140 official field visits to League affiliates and Service Councils during 1945.



The Urban League Movement is Nation-Wide.

Urban League affiliates are to be found in 54 cities in 27 states and the District of Columbia as follows.

STATES

Arizona
Arkansas
California
Connecticut
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Illinois
Indiana

Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
New Jersey

New York
Ohio
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin

CITIES

Akron
Albany
Anderson
Atlanta
Baltimore
Boston
Buffalo
Canton
Chicago
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Columbus
Detroit
Elizabeth
Englewood
Flint
Fort Wayne
Fort Worth

Gary
Grand Rapids
Kansas City
Lincoln
Little Rock
Los Angeles
Louisville
Marion
Massillon
Memphis
Miami
Milwaukee
Minneapolis
New Brunswick
New Orleans
New York
Newark
Omaha

Philadelphia
Phoenix
Pittsburgh
Portland
Providence
Richmond
St. Louis
St. Paul
San Francisco
Seattle
Springfield (Ill.)
Springfield (Mass.)
Tampa
Toledo
Warren
Washington
Waterbury
White Plains

Service Councils are located in:

Chester, Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Hartford, Connecticut
Indianapolis, Indiana

Middletown, Ohio
Morristown, New Jersey
Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Wilmington, Delaware

Surveys have been made by the Community Relations Project in the following cities

Dayton, Ohio
Gary, Indiana
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Houston, Texas
St. Petersburg, Florida
Tulsa, Oklahoma

New London, Connecticut



Guest Speaker and Delegates at Urban League Annual Conference.

"The problem of inter group conflict in America will be well on the way to solution when a sufficient number of individual citizens and groups of citizens become enough concerned about it to sit down together and find the main conflict point and work honestly and courageously to eliminate them."

**Southern Field
Division**

Since 1918, the National Urban League has centralized its program in the southern states in the office of a Southern Field Division with headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. This office, with the active assistance of strong local interracial groups, supervises the work of League affiliates in seven states. Since 1913 staff direction of the southern field office has experienced several changes. The long-time Director who resigned in 1913 was succeeded by a temporary appointee who left in 1914 to assume supervision of the study of Negro business. Later, a new Director was appointed, a fellow of the National Urban League and former Executive Secretary of the Atlanta Urban League. The Southern Field Division, with a greatly accelerated program, suffered a disastrous setback when illness prompted the resignation of the Director during the fall of the year.

During the year, a number of important accomplishments were

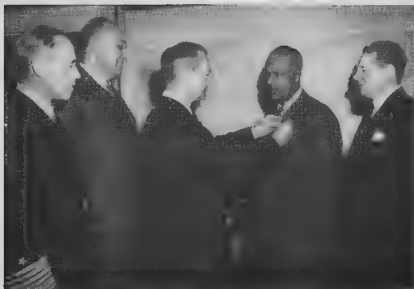
credited to this office. One was completion of the organization of the Fort Worth Urban League, the first affiliate in Texas. Another was the stimulation of interest in a number of southern communities in the League's program, and tentative steps toward organization of affiliates. Through this field activity several southern cities were encouraged to act as hosts to the Community Relations Project, and the National Office received requests for various kinds of assistance from other cities. The Southern Field Director attended and led a number of conferences on the subject of race relations, job opportunities, and veteran readjustment. From such cities as Dallas and Houston, Texas, Nashville, Tennessee; New Orleans, Louisiana, and Tulsa, Oklahoma, expressions of acknowledgment were received by the National Office testifying to the wise and inspiring leadership exerted by the Director of the Southern Field Division.

"Democracy, like peace, is something that has to be worked at. Just as we cannot have enduring peace by simply wishing it, so we cannot have a democracy worthy of the name without everlastingly devoting ourselves to improving it."

Distinguished Awards to League Personnel On several occasions high ranking federal officials have given signal recognition of the services which government agencies have received from the Urban League. The Secretary of the Navy in the spring of 1945 requested the League's Executive Board to make its Executive Secretary available to the Navy Department to serve as Special Advisor to the Secretary of the Navy to observe, evaluate and recommend improvements in the Navy's practices in assignment and command of Negro personnel. The League's Executive Secretary was asked to visit naval installations in continental United States and in the Pacific Ocean area, observing the extent to which the recent policy revisions had become effective and making recommendations to improve the morale, the opportunities and performance of Negroes in naval service.

The League's executive completed more than 40,000 miles of air travel in a series of missions that reached 67 naval activities. He talked face-to-face with approximately 10,000 Negro enlisted men and their officers and conferred with ranking Navy officials in Washington and the Pacific area. His reports included commendation of progress made, criticism of failures and analysis of weaknesses revealed, and recommendations for further adjustments in the Navy's racial practice.

Upon completion of this assignment, he was honored with the



Navy's Highest Civilian Award Bestowed on League's Executive Secretary.

Navy's highest civilian award, the Distinguished Civilian Service Award, presented by the Secretary of the Navy, which said in part

Courageous and fair in criticism, honest and temperate in praise. Mr. Granger has performed a delicate and important task in a manner deserving of the Navy's highest civilian award."

The Industrial Relations Director was similarly commended by the Selective Service System when he was awarded the Selective Service Medal authorized by Congress. The award was made:

" for the significant contribution which you have made to the operation of the Selective Service System by making yourself available for continuous consultations regarding occupational and employment matters concerning Negro veterans, and for the Urban League studies of Negro employment which have helped the Selective Service System to understand the occupational and employment problems of Negro veterans . . ."

Other federal agencies which have made similar acknowledgment of League services were the Office of Price Administration, the National Housing Agency, the War Department, the War Manpower Commission, and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.



National Selective Service Award Given to Industrial Relations Director.

"Security cannot be attained without harmonious understanding and healthy respect developed between Americans on the basis of their common citizenship in the world's greatest nation."

Promotion and Publicity The whole Urban League program advances on a base of public appreciation and understanding which is established by constant interpretative activities of the National Office. One of the greatest handicaps in the progress of better race relations in America is the unfortunate lack of information suffered by an overwhelming majority of the population, both white and Negro. The myths accepted by the average citizen confuse and retard efforts toward the adjustment of Negroes in American society. The suspicion and hostility referred to earlier in this report are thereby accentuated. A defeatist attitude maintained by responsible leadership stultifies public imagination and energy in the correction of dangerous social conditions. For these reasons a great deal of effort is invested by the League in dissipating ignorance and fear in the field of race relations. These activities, roughly described as Promotion and Publicity, are for the first time coordinated and centralized.

NEGRO SURVEY Urban League Manages Real Estate IS PRESENTED Unique New York Experiment

Urban League Offers to Point Program to Solve Problems Here

Challenge of Negro Problem Being Met by Urban League

Education Pushed By Urban League

NEW YORK Herald Tribune

Enlarged Health Unit Said Needed

Negro Workers Making Good Urban League Survey Shows

Urban League Should Be Well Supported

ANTI-BIAS LAWS URGED ON TRUMAN

Urban League Also Asks Job for Quicker Negroes in Government Leases

Analyst Declares City's Hospital Set up Deficient

Better Housing For Negroes Urged

Arkansas Gazette

The Work of the Urban League

Seek Equitable Race Relations

Urban League Says Negro Veterans Resent Return to Second Class

Urban League Charges Jobs Lag for Negroes

Self Help for Progress

League administrator on Urban League employment forum

Urban League Head Is Praised For Helping Curb Delinquency

The New York Times

THE URBAN LEAGUE

The Atlanta Sun

The Urban League

URBAN LEAGUE CHIEF ADVISES ROOKIE POLICE

Urges an Attitude of Impartiality

Urban League Urges Anti-Bias Laws

Urban League, Other Groups Urge Members in OPA Program

National Urban League to Aid Veterans

Urban League's Hardest Work Should Be Stronger Support and Fuller Participation

National Campaign On To Open Up More Phone Jobs

BACK THE LEAGUE

JOSEPH D. B. B.

The Urban League Story—Told by the Press.



The Urban League Story Told by Radio

The oldest and most important of these activities is *OPPORTUNITY, Journal of Negro Life*, the League's official organ. In 1945, *OPPORTUNITY* completed its twenty-third year of publication and its third year on a wartime quarterly basis. The journal reaches a cross-section of American readers of both races. *OPPORTUNITY* is placed in libraries, both public and private, and in schools and colleges. It reaches the desks of government officials and leaders in business, industry and labor. It goes to the desks of molders of public opinion and is widely quoted as an authoritative source in the field of race relations.

One general and three special issues were published during this year. The first special issue was devoted to *The Negro in the Armed Forces*. The second was the annual vocational guidance issue. The third celebrated the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Urban League movement. The armed forces issue was the most complete record to date of the Negro in the armed forces. The War Department ordered 2,000 copies for distribution throughout army installations, and particularly in Separation Centers.

Important as these issues were, *OPPORTUNITY*'s effectiveness obviously has been limited by its reduction to a quarterly publication.

basis. That reduction was caused partly by wartime paper shortages and the government's request for magazine publication to be restricted; and partly by the League's decision on use of limited funds and personnel in wartime emergency activities. Board consideration is now being given to the need for re-establishing the journal as a monthly publication.

Among the special publications of 1945 was a statement addressed to the President of the United States, entitled *Racial Aspects of Reconversion*. This statement, prepared after V-J Day, called attention to the areas in American life where the interests of the Negro population were seriously threatened as a result of postwar and reconversion developments. Five thousand copies were printed and circulated among the President's Cabinet, heads of federal agencies, opinion makers in the publishing and radio fields, and numerous other leaders in American life. *Racial Aspects of Reconversion* has been used by many committees and organizations interested in race relations, and by municipal planning bodies and legislative committees.



"But when we consider the tremendous odds with which Negro citizens are faced in their quest for full American opportunity, can we consider these organizational resources sufficient for the task to which the Urban League movement is committed?"

**The United
Urban League
Service
Fund**

Classed as an interpretative as well as a fund raising activity was the financial campaign carried on by the National Urban League during 1945 to meet the largest budget in its history. In New York City, the campaign was conducted jointly with the local affiliate, the Urban League of Greater New York, through the United Urban League Service Fund under the chairmanship of Elmo Roper. Throughout the rest of the country contributions and memberships were sought directly by the National Urban League. This two-way financial approach made it possible for the League to spend \$149,314.64 in comparison with \$98,691.10 in 1944. A significant by-product of the campaign was a deeper public understanding of the League's program than has ever before been achieved. Both the metropolitan daily press and the national weekly Negro press were extremely generous in reporting activities in connection with this new fund-raising effort.

This is a greatly increased budget if one compares it with the 1942 expenditures of \$56,566.25. However, it is a small budget when one considers the tremendous field of need which must be served. Additional money will provide the equipment and staff for the League to keep pace with these ever increasing needs. With such expanding facilities, the National Urban League can insure a more efficient and adequate service to the total American community.

"The National Urban League may be considered an important American movement. If its importance is measured by its objectives and the spirit and energy with which its members devote themselves to their organizational responsibility, it is not a small movement."

**Local Affiliates
of the
National
Urban League**

It is obviously impossible in this report to summarize even in brief form the varied and extensive activities of the 54 local Urban League affiliates. Differing widely among themselves, these affiliates cover an impressive range of interests. A summarized account of their 1945 programs may be had upon application to the National Office. The reports of local affiliates give a picture of insistent efforts in 27 states to bring Negro citizens into equal partnership in American life. All over the country League staff and board members met with plant foremen and supervisors of personnel; sat in committee rooms planning health and welfare, appealed to their communities for better understanding of the social needs of the Negro population, and heartened Negroes themselves with an evidence of public support coming from both races directed to the end of getting a square deal in American life for American citizens regardless of race.

Two hundred and nineteen professional staff members and more than 2,500 members of League Boards and Committees, working in employed and volunteer capacities provided a force in American life, the importance of which is incalculable. The mass of informational and educational material prepared by Leagues and distributed among both races all over the country constitutes in itself an important American enterprise. The year's outpouring of hundreds of thousands of white and colored citizens to discussion groups, conferences and mass meetings promoted by Urban Leagues comprises an adventure in community relations which is an inspiring example of the maturing social conscience of America.

This report is not intended to produce an impression of the National Urban League's omniscience in planning or perfection in execution of

its program. The achievements which are recorded here and which could be multiplied many times are an occasion for real pride. But with equal humility and in common honesty, it must be admitted that the League's failures and errors have been heartbreaking and all too frequent.

The League's program is delicately balanced in a traditional American area of heavy public controversy where divergent opinions are sharp and emotional reactions intense. The League considers itself a spokesman in behalf of the basic interests of the American community, and a supporter of the democratic impulse in American life. Its essential interracial structure causes the organization to be concerned primarily with the interests of the whole community. While it is true that the League seeks to interpret the needs of the Negro population, it is equally true that it seeks continuously to create a common understanding between both groups in the community. In playing this role, the League loses a part of the drama enjoyed by some other organizations active in the field of interracial relations. Moreover, in its effort to "remove the racial factor" from employment, housing, health and other activities, the League sometimes will be attacked by the leadership of other groups whose interests are limited to the retention of the status quo.

Admittedly, errors of judgment can be discovered as one checks back on the year's record in certain fields, especially in housing. Eighty percent of the Negro population lived in sub-standard dwellings, and definite trends appear making for increased patterns of racial segregation in housing. Government is increasing its activity in providing housing for low-income and underprivileged groups. In the face of these developments, the League could not provide all of the leadership necessary in this very important field. Checks must be placed upon the suicidal trend toward racial ghettos observed in the spread of restrictive property owners' covenants. The introduction of racial segregation in new areas through the establishment of separate public housing projects is a development to be opposed. The deterioration and accelerated obsolescence of existing Negro neighborhoods must be corrected through the enactment and administration of health and sanitation codes and through acceptance by neighborhood leadership of its share of responsibility for improving housing conditions. Negro home owners must be advised and assisted in purchasing property and in protecting neighborhood standards. This is an over all responsibility which the League plans to meet more fully during 1946.

Not enough attention has been given to guiding the many inexperienced and vaguely wandering race relations committees which were

hastily established in hundreds of cities throughout the country during the war years, but whose enthusiasm has subsequently waned because of lack of specific objectives and supporting services. These committees represent a potential influence for good if properly directed, but have too often been ineffective or worse because of lack of program. Obviously, here is another area where the League must provide leadership.

The program and plans of the National Urban League for 1946 have been formulated with the following objectives in view:

- To increase the prestige and effectiveness of the National Urban League's program during the period which President Truman has referred to as "our year of decision",
- To put a firm financial underpinning beneath the present expanded staff and activities,
- To continue to work toward cooperative relationships between the National Urban League and its affiliates,
- To initiate or continue certain special projects which are in line with the traditional function of the League, such as a continuation of activities in the fields of housing and health; and
- To hold the Annual Conference of the National Urban League which was suspended during the war period

For these reasons, it is essential for the Urban League to attract a larger popular following than the organization now holds. With such a following during the crucial war months, while the driving urge of a "will to victory" impelled the American people, the League could have been more successful in exerting influence upon leadership in government, industry and labor. The autonomous nature of local Urban Leagues—the fact that their memberships are not automatically included in the membership of the national parent organization—has been a retarding factor in gathering a large mass following directly within the membership of the National Urban League. Plans are now being discussed with local League leaders throughout the country for correction of this condition in the future.

Membership in, or a contribution to this national program is a sound business investment, and dividends have already been guaranteed by the record of achievement presented in this report. This record has been consistently maintained over the previous thirty-four years of the League's activity. In truth, the Urban League movement offers to America the services of a national agency which has for thirty five years been performing "the sanest job of its kind in bringing the races together for community good, and providing Negroes with greater economic opportunity." To this cause the National Urban League summons the financial and moral support of the great American public.

STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Eugene Kinckle Jones.....	General Secretary
Lester B. Granger.....	Executive Secretary
Philitus W. Joyce.....	Senior Administrative Assistant
Ann Tanneyhill.....	Executive Assistant
Enid D. Baird.....	Secretary to the Executive
Zoa E. Cooper.....	Bookkeeper
Norma I. Bowler.....	Stenographer
Doris M. Johnson.....	Receptionist and Switchboard Operator
Rudolph Collymore.....	Office Attendant

SOUTHERN FIELD DIVISION

Nelson C. Jackson.....	Director
Mittinell L. Wheeler.....	Office Secretary

RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Warren M. Banner.....	Director
J. Harvey Kerns.....	Assistant Director
Ruby B. Yearwood.....	Administrative Assistant
Lucille P. Chappelle.....	Stenographer
Margot B. Eckstein.....	Volunteer Assistant

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROJECT

William H. Dean.....	Director
Iris Eaton.....	Secretary to the Director
Ruth Witherspoon.....	Stenographer
<i>Consultants:</i>	
Edward F. Boyd.....	Housing
Ethel R. Clark.....	Social Group Work and Recreation
Paul R. Cornely.....	Health
Richard R. Jefferson.....	Industrial Relations and Employment
Ewell L. Newman.....	Social Case Work
Manet Fowler.....	Public Relations

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Julius A. Thomas.....	Director
LeRoy W. Jeffries.....	Assistant Director
Ruth Allen King.....	Secretary to the Director

FIELD SERVICES

Reginald A. Johnson.....	Director
Anne Mather.....	Field Services Assistant
Marjorie McDaniel.....	Secretary to the Director

EDUCATION SERVICES

Alphonse Heningburg.....	Director
Fannie V. Berryman.....	Secretary to the Director

OPPORTUNITY: JOURNAL OF NEGRO LIFE

Madeline L. Aldridge.....	Editorial Assistant
Olive L. Samuel.....	Business Assistant
Hilda Reed.....	Stenographer

PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY

Guichard Parris.....	Director
Marjorie E. Greene.....	Publicity Assistant
Manson A. Melton.....	Publications Assistant
Janet S. Coleman.....	Secretary to the Director

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, Inc.
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN SURPLUS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1945
GENERAL FUND

	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>Surplus or Deficit</i>
SURPLUS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR.....			\$ 2,056.16
GENERAL PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES.....	\$77,443.56	\$47,677.14	29,766.42
(Not Restricted)			
SPECIAL PURPOSE (<i>Deficits Absorbed in General Fund</i>), as follows:—			
1. Industrial Relations	8,404.46	24,189.27	15,784.81
2. Research	743.04	8,076.21	7,333.17
3. American War Community Service	11,839.73	12,636.08	796.35
4. Opportunity Journal	9,958.73	12,095.06	2,136.33
Total	<u>\$30,945.96</u>	<u>\$56,996.62</u>	
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES IN GENERAL FUND FOR YEAR.....			3,715.76
Surplus Before Adjustment.....			1,659.60
Segregation of Fixed Assets—1945			
Purchases			880.99
Surplus at December 31, 1945.....			<u>778.61</u>
ENDOWMENTS EXPENDABLE			
Balance at Beginning of Year Plotz.....			1,248.34
Income Restricted as to Purpose			
ELLA SACHS PLOTZ FUND.....	494.00	641.65	147.65
Expendable Balance at Close of Year.....			<u>1,100.69</u>
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS			
BENEZET FUND (FELLOWSHIP)			
Surplus at Beginning of Year.....			1,243.27
Operations During Year.....	1,200.00	1,200.03	.03
Surplus at December 31, 1945.....			<u>1,243.24</u>
MAYNZ FUND (FELLOWSHIP)			
Surplus at Beginning of Year			
Operations During Year	800.00	266.67	533.33
Surplus at December 31, 1945.....			<u>533.33</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,466.70</u>	
Surplus in Special Contributions at Close of Year			<u>\$ 1,776.57</u>

OTHER FUNDS

	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>Surplus or Deficit</i>
NEW LAND FOUNDATION			
Surplus at Beginning of Year.....			\$ 900.01
Operations During Year		\$ 900.01	900.01
Surplus at December 31, 1945.....			
GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD			
Surplus at Beginning of Year.....			11,034.79
Operations During Year	\$35,833.34	41,009.86	176.52
Segregation of Fixed Assets—			
1945 Purchases			495.60
Surplus at December 31, 1945.....			<u>\$ 5,362.67</u>
TWO FRIENDS AWARD			
Surplus at Beginning of Year.....			758.55
Operations During Year	174.50	622.66	448.16
Surplus at December 31, 1945.....			<u>\$ 310.39</u>
Total	<u>\$36,007.84</u>	<u>\$42,532.53</u>	
Surplus in Other Funds at Close of Year			<u>\$ 5,673.06</u>

SUMMARY OF ALL FUNDS

Income of All Sources.....	\$146,891.36
Disbursements—All Funds	149,314.64
Expenditures for Calendar Year 1945.....	<u>\$ 2,423.28</u>

This statement of Income, Expenditures and changes in Surplus is a condensed version of an identical statement contained in the report of our audit of the books and records of the National Urban League, Inc. for the calendar year 1945.

Additional details may be secured at the National Urban League office at 1133 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

LUCAS AND TUCKER
Certified Public Accountants
 (N. Y.)

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

1133 Broadway, New York 10, New York

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OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

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 WILLARD S. TOWNSEND.....*Vice-President*
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P. B. YOUNG

Southern Field Division: 158 Auburn Avenue, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia